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Dr. Carlos Viana Launches his latest book: "Prescriptions from Paradise" - Introduction to Biocompatible Medicine



Dr. Viana with wife Phyllis

Botica Servicio, Dr. Rodriguez, who is working with him on a study of the local population, Dentist Hank Marsman, who partners with him for biocompatible dentistry, and in particular, John Chemaly, Sr. publisher of Bon Dia, who had the vision to provide Dr. Viana with a forum by encouraging him to write a weekly column for his paper.

Eventually, these hundreds of articles were collated by Parvati Markus and "incubated...into a cohesive manuscript." The result, "Prescriptions from Paradise," is, in Dr. Viana's words, "a guide for the layman in understanding the terms and techniques of biocompatible medical treatment."

Organized in alphabetical order it spans a universe of common ailments and understanding the causes and how to prevent them. The doctor's lively and concise writing style makes such a dry subject fascinating and entertaining.

The presence of Aruba's Minister of Public Health & Sport, Dr. Richard Visser, to demonstrate his belief in the importance of the book and its message was particularly gratifying to Dr. Viana, demonstrating how far the island has come in officially recognizing alternative, holistic treatment and wellness care as a viable solution for many of the ills that plague the community.

Continued on pg 4

Today is World Autism Awareness Day



ness Day resolution encourages all Member States to take measures to raise awareness about autism throughout society and to encourage early diagnosis and early intervention. It further expresses deep concern at the prevalence and high rate of autism in children in all regions of the world and the consequent developmental challenges.

World Autism Awareness Day shines a bright light on autism as a growing global health crisis. WAAD activities help to increase and develop world knowledge of the autism epidemic and impart information regarding the importance of early diagnosis and early intervention. Additionally, WAAD celebrates the unique talents and skills of persons with autism and is a day when individuals with autism are warmly welcomed and embraced in community events around the globe.

By bringing together autism organizations all around the world, we will give a voice to the millions of individuals worldwide who are undiagnosed, misunderstood and looking for help.

Thank you for celebrating the wonderful people in our lives affected by autism on April 2 and throughout April which is Autism Awareness Month.

On December 18, 2007, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 62/139, tabled by the State of Qatar, which declares **April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD)** in perpetuity. Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned, Consort of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar, supported the campaign for a World Autism Awareness Day through the current 62nd UN General Assembly Session, garnering consensus support from all United Nations Member States.

This UN resolution is one of only three official health-specific United Nations Days and will bring the world's attention to autism, a pervasive disorder that affects tens of millions. The World Autism Awareness

For more than a decade, Aruban-born world traveler Dr. Carlos M. Viana, OMD (China), CCN, better known as "The Barefoot Doctor," has been bringing his philosophy of holistic healing and wellness to islanders, many of them considering him a "miracle worker" when conventional methodology had presented no relief.

Such a one was lawyer and parliamentarian Andin Bikker, who testified to his personal successful treatment for extreme back pain when ordinary practitioners had bombarded with painkillers but offered no lasting, substantive solution. He was proud to introduce Dr. Viana for launching of his newest book during an elegant affair around the pool of the Divi Mega-All Inclusive Resort on Friday evening at sunset.

A modest gathering of friends and particularly supporters of Dr. Viana were regaled with the story of his struggle to have procedures such as acupuncture and the prescription of proper diet, exercise and natural dietary supplements essential in

treating many ailments, which had stumped doctors. His clinic in Kibaima has built a steady patronage, and Dr. Viana's position in the community is now well established after initial skepticism and resistance; for this he ardently credits the support and love of his wife, "Soul Mate" Phyllis and sons, Julio and Fernando.

Receiving inscribed, complimentary copies of the book was a group of individuals who had heartily supported him in his efforts to bring the concepts of natural wellness care and biocompatible medicine to Aruba, including Edward Oduber of Oduber Agencies, his editor, Ellen Kleiner, the management of

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Revival brewing for the defunct Bushiri Hotel and school



With the last court case won hands down, the Aruba government is now legally free to do business with new candidates interested in the defunct Bushiri Hotel complex.

On Wednesday, March 28th the Judge pronounced the sentence in the case of Baron Investment LCC versus the government of Aruba. Plaintiff in this case (Baron) urged the Court to prohibit the government of Aruba to bequeath the property of the defunct Bushiri Hotel to any other party and to continue negotiating with Baron or be sued for damages for non-compliance. However, much to the chagrin of Baron Investment LCC, the Judge ruled in favor of the government of Aruba and dismissed all the demands made by Baron.

Baron Investment is the Group that qualified in second place in the Public Tender submitted by the former government administration in 2007. The current government administration had attempted to reach an agreement with the Baron Group for acquiring the Bushiri Hotel complex before they had submitted a new Public Tender. This re-

portedly failed for a number of viable reasons. Baron Investment consequently refused to accept the government's position on the matter and filed a court case. The Judge, however, declared that Baron Investment has no legal rights to oblige the government because the process that the government had pursued with them was transparent and correct.

Several weeks ago Fresnos, the Group that the previous government administration had negotiated with for the reconstruction of the Bushiri Hotel complex, also lost their case in Court which they intimated against the government of Aruba. Fresnos had the full support of the previous government and even had the former Minister of Tourism to testify in their favor in a court of law.

As it now stands, after Baron Investment and Fresnos both lost their cases in Court, the government of Aruba can now proceed with their negotiations with other parties for the new project for the Bushiri complex.

This week the government received the advice they anticipated from the president of the commission regarding the

two remaining groups who have indicated serious interest in acquiring and operating the former Bushiri Hotel. It is expected that by the end of this year the ruins of the defunct Bushiri complex will be cleaned up and we will begin to see construction taking place to renew the facilities and return the complex to what it was in the past.

The government's vision is to return Bushiri to the success it once enjoyed as a training center coupled to a hotel offering our people the opportunity to receive 'on-the-job' training. Aruba must again become (it was this during the years 1983 to 2003 under the expert leadership of Dr. Tony Green who was Director of the training school from its inception), the instrument for exporting our knowledge of the hotel and tourism industry.

There are currently several International institutions interested in the training school. One of the conditions of the project is that the operator must invest at least 10 million dollars in developing a training center on the complex or elsewhere.

By September or October construction must have begun on a new hotel at the site which will contribute to the upgrading of the entire area and provide the area with a brand new appeal for Aruba and for practically every tourist who goes by that complex.

Aruba is drawing closer to a positive end to the ugly and sore eyed debris of the defunct Bushiri Hotel complex. Revival is, indeed, brewing for a new Bushiri on the L.G. Smith Blvd.'s entrance towards the rest of the beautiful spread of our hotel plant.

Ambassador of India visits Aruba's PM



Mrs. Smita Purushottam, Ambassador of India in Caracas spent two days, March 27 and 28, on Aruba during which she took the time to visit Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman.

Purpose for the visit to Aruba's PM was to explore ideas for the possibilities for cooperation between India and Aruba as she embarks on her tenure of service in Caracas. Mrs. Smita Purushottam began her tenure of service as Ambassador in Caracas at the beginning of this year, January 2012. She will serve a three-year tenure as Ambassador of India in Caracas.

Among the topics discussed with Aruba's PM was the possibility for using Aruba as a stepping stone to

India in this region for among others, pharmaceutical businesses (medicine from India approved by the USA FDA), and to become a center of training on advanced technology and innovation. She also discussed the possibility for bringing an Indian commercial delegation to Aruba. The Indian Ambassador was visibly impressed with the dynamism of the island of Aruba and its people.

Mrs. Purushottam was accompanied by Anjani Kumar from the Indian Embassy in Caracas, Ramchand Boolchand, the Honorary Consul of India in Aruba, Prakash Gupta of the local Indian Community, and Peter Davidse of the Department of External Relations here.

Special lecture by Dr. Efrat Tamar Kedem from Israel on April 3!

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DATE: Tuesday, April 3rd. at 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Beth Israel Synagogue - A. Lacle Blvd. # 2, Oranjestad

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For more info call Phone: 582 3272

'Hunger Games' box office king for second week

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Teen action film phenomenon "The Hunger Games" stayed on top of the North American box office for a second weekend, easily outsmarting Greek gods and Snow White, industry estimates showed Sunday.

The movie, which opened with a record \$152.5 million last weekend, has surged to a total of \$250 million in just 10 days in theaters, Exhibitor Relations said on its website. It made \$60 million this weekend.

The movie is based on a book for young adults by Suzanne Collins, in which a teenage girl played by Elizabeth Banks fights to win a death match TV reality show in a post-apocalyptic world.

In distant second place was new film "Wrath of the Titans" with \$36 million.

A contemporary take on the Snow White fairy tale, "Mirror Mirror" also had a disappointing opening, with \$22 million. Julia Roberts plays an evil queen who seizes control of a kingdom, while its exiled princess Lily Collins seeks the help of seven rebels to regain her realm.

In fourth were the youthful policemen of 1980s remake "21 Jump Street," which pulled in \$15 million for its third weekend in theaters.

Fifth was the animated film "Dr. Seuss' The Lorax" with a \$9 million weekend take and \$190 million in the bank after four weekends on the big screen.

The Disney critical flop -- and huge loss-maker -- "John Carter" came in sixth, with \$2.25 million in its fifth weekend in theaters.

New release "Salmon Fishing in the Yemen," grabbed \$1.75 million to land in seventh.

In eighth came "Act of Valor," a war film starring active duty US Navy SEALs, with \$1.5 million in receipts.

"Project X," came in ninth after snatching \$1 million.

Rounding out the top 10 was the Eddie Murphy comedy "A Thousand Words," also earning an estimated \$1 million.

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ARZU participates at Fashion Week Miami



Part of the collection by ARZU



Candy (R) poses with a model wearing her designs

Recently ARZU Aruba, customized jewelry store was chosen to participate in the International Fashion Week in Miami. This event took place from March 21st – 24th.

ARZU designer Mrs.

Candy Rasmijn-Reino expressed that the collection presented by ARZU was a huge success. "This collection was of a unique design, where different fabrics were mixed with stones, leather and metal, while following the color trends of the season." Designers present at the event also had the opportunity to interchange ideas with their peers from all around the globe.

ARZU was also covered extensively by the press, such as Vanidades, Fashion TV, In Style and Noticiero NTN.

Candy also received a full day of training in color trends in the fashion world and also on how to market a new brand such as ARZU.

ARZU is situated at the Paseo Herencia (facing the Liberty Wall). But Candy expressed that thru God's Will

they hope to open one more store on Aruba and two international stores, with Miami and New York in mind.

As of March 31st the collection used at the exposition at Fashion Week is available at ARZU.

"Everyone is welcome to drop in and admire and purchase this beautiful collection," Candy stated.



Checking out an ARZU piece

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Dr. Carlos Viana Launches his latest book... Continued from pg 1



Dr. Viana and all book recipients



With John Chemali

"Prescriptions from Paradise" is now available at Viana Healing Center and all book stores, Gift shops and quality Health Centers. On Saturday, April 7, Dr. Viana will be joining the activities of the Book Week at Bruna bookstore at 3:30 PM for a book signing. It is also available on Amazon.com, where it can also be downloaded on



With Andin Bikker



With Minister of Health, Richard Visser



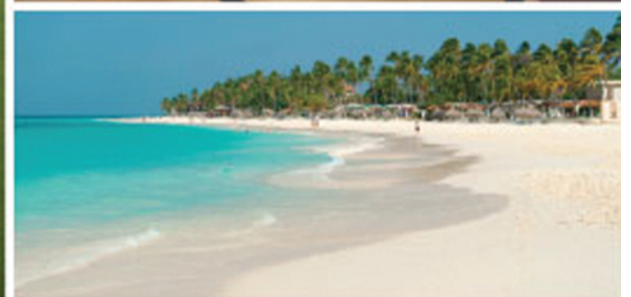
Kindle. Dr. Viana is well known as an entertaining and informative speaker; he can be contacted via Vibrations PR Company. Follow his schedule for speaking engagements and presentations at www.vianaheal.com and all are welcome to join the discussion on Facebook page: www.facebook.com/prescriptionsfromparadise.

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Thanks to reduced import duties, new “Green” cars are cheaper

Last Wednesday evening auto dealer Hans Schnog was host to a VIP fet for invitees who came to view the set of new Hybrid automobiles now on sale in the Garage Cordia showroom. According to observers, the beauty of the pack is the Camry full quipped. All the autos to be sold at the Garage Cordia dealership will be “green” cars henceforth.

For the special occasion, Mr. Chris Cooper, representative of the Toyota Company in Miami was one of the invited guests who also shared some words with the group. Cooper indicated that Aruba

is the first market in the Caribbean to introduce Hybrid autos in such a large scale. He claimed that this is obviously due to the government’s reduction in the import duty tariffs for “Green” products.

Said reduction makes these autos less expensive for a large group of people on the island. Cooper remarked that the people of Aruba deserves to be applauded for taking alternative energy so seriously and for their serious concern for the environment of Aruba.

Cooper is convinced that the Hybrid cars are just perfect and fits in perfectly with

the strategy for a “green” society.

Mr. Cooper also explained that they imported three Hybrid autos for this inauguration of the Hybrid genre of vehicles, but that several more are on their way to Aruba.

Every month more Hybrids will be coming to Aruba so as to create continuity. Chris Cooper said that he was enchanted with Aruba and has visited the island some 20 times already. He hopes to be back for Aruba’s famous and successful “Green Conference.”

Obama 'stated the obvious' in Russia remarks: Biden

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Vice President Joe Biden said Sunday President Barack Obama "stated the obvious" when he assured Russia's president he would have more flexibility to deal with missile defense after US elections.

In an interview with CBS's "Face the Nation," Biden dismissed Republican criticism of Obama's remarks to President Dmitry Medvedev in Seoul on Monday, which were caught on an open microphone.

"Look... the president just stated the obvious," Biden said.

"The idea that in this election year we're going to be able to deal with an agreement with the Russians on

further reducing our nuclear arsenals in the environment that we have in... Congress right now is difficult."

In their last meeting before Vladimir Putin is inaugurated president in May, Obama told Medvedev that it was important for Russia to give him "space" on all issues, but particularly missile defense.

Romney, the frontrunner to become the Republican nominee to run against Obama in November elections, also attacked Obama for congratulating Putin on his victory in recent presidential elections, polls that activists said had irregularities.

The former Massachusetts governor "acts like he thinks the Cold War's still on," Biden said.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

International News

'Friends of Syria' tighten screws on Damascus regime



US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton Says Syrian President Assad 'Must Go'

ISTANBUL (AFP) - Western and Arab nations called Sunday for Syria's Bashar al-Assad to be given a deadline to meet the terms of a peace plan as fresh clashes in a year-long uprising claimed another 40 lives.

An international conference in Istanbul by "Friends of Syria" countries also urged the United Nations to act to stop the violence, but steered clear of backing opposition appeals for arms to fight the regime clampdown.

In a final declaration, the conference urged Syria mediator Kofi Annan "to determine a timeline for next steps, in-

cluding a return to the UN Security Council, if the killing continues."

"The regime will be judged by its deeds rather than its promises. The window of opportunity for the regime to implement its commitments to joint special envoy Annan is not open-ended," it added.

The gathering brought together the Arab League and countries such as the United States, France and Germany.

Assad on Tuesday said he accepted the plan proposed by Annan. But this has not stopped the shelling of opposition strongholds.

The six-point peace plan calls for an end to violence, a daily two-hour humanitarian ceasefire and access to all areas affected by fighting, as well as an inclusive Syrian-led political process, the right to demonstrate, and the release of people detained arbitrarily.

The Istanbul gathering, which followed one in Tunis in late February, came amid continuing fighting on the ground as Damascus said it had no immediate plans to pull back its forces.

Conference host Turkey warned the world would have no choice but to recognise Syrians' right to take up arms if the UN fails to act.

"If the United Nations Security Council refrains from

taking on the responsibility, the international community will have no chance but to accept Syrians' right to self-defence," Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said as he opened the conference.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton criticised Assad's regime for launching new assaults just days after accepting the Annan plan.

"Nearly a week has gone by, and we have to conclude that the regime is adding to its long list of broken promises," she said, adding that Assad was "mistaken" if he thought he could defeat the opposition against him.

Arab League head Nabil al-Arabi urged conference participants to demand that the UN Security Council pass a binding decision to stop the violence.

Ahead of the gathering, Assad's regime declared victory over rebels and again voiced support for Annan's plan, but kept up its shelling of rebel positions and said it had no plans to immediately withdraw troops.

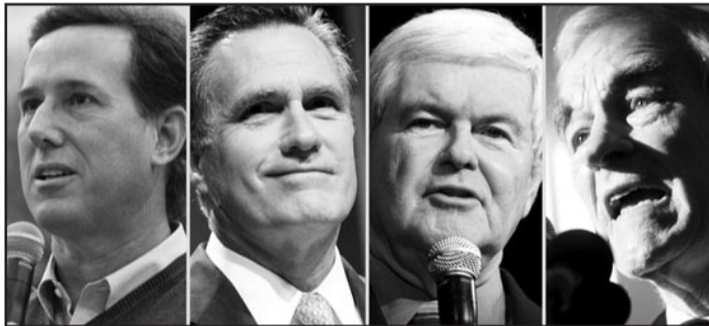
The "Friends of Syria" meeting recognised the opposition Syrian National Council as the "legitimate representative" of all Syrians and the "leading interlocutor for the opposition with the international community."

SNC chief Burhan Ghalioun said this meant that "the government has now become illegitimate."

A leading Syrian rebel meanwhile hit out at the conference for avoiding the issue of arming the insurgents, saying such meetings "prolonged" the life of Assad's regime.

The SNC on Saturday renewed calls for arming rebels, but the final statement of the Istanbul conference did not make any reference to the pleas.

Romney nomination push by Republican leaders



from L to R Santorum - Romney - Gingrich and Paul

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Senior Republicans on Sunday pushed the "overwhelming" case for Mitt Romney to be crowned the party's presidential election nominee, but his main rival Rick Santorum vowed to fight on.

The White House signaled that it, too, sees Romney as the likely Republican challenger in November with Vice President Joe Biden devoting an entire television interview to an attack on the former Massachusetts governor.

Three months into a bitterly fought Republican race for the nomination, Romney is the clear frontrunner and polls suggest he will win three more primaries Tuesday -- in Wisconsin, Maryland and the US capital Washington.

McConnell the Republican leader in the Senate, did not explicitly endorse Romney but suggested that the party should follow the lead of former president George H.W. Bush and Congressman Paul Ryan, a leading Republican and representative for Wisconsin, who did.

Romney, who has won 21 out of 34 nominating contests so far, is polling ahead of Santorum in Wisconsin.

But unless Romney can clinch the 1,144 delegates needed for the nomination -- he currently has 565 -- he could be forced to wait until

late August to get the nod at the Republican party's convention.

Santorum, who has racked up 11 victories but has less than half Romney's number of all-important Republican delegates, said Sunday he was determined to fight on despite Republican efforts to anoint his rival.

A fervent Catholic and strong critic of abortion and gay rights who is popular with evangelicals, the former Pennsylvania senator again urged voters to back him instead of Romney.

Romney has begun focusing almost exclusively on his likely battle against Obama.

In a campaign speech on Friday in Wisconsin, he didn't mention his Republican rivals once, opting instead to highlight his and the president's "fundamentally different visions for America."

Biden, meanwhile, laid into Romney, brushing off his attacks on Obama's handling of the economy.

Romney's two other opponents in the Republican race -- former House of Representatives speaker Newt Gingrich and Texas Congressman Ron Paul on Sunday said they were not going to quit, despite lengthening odds.

Paul, who has no victories, when asked if he would continue, added: "Obviously, yes."

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International News

Flood-hit Fiji declares state of emergency



NATADOLA-FIJI (AFP) - Flood-ravaged Fiji declared a state of emergency Sunday and warned tourists to stay away for the time being, as heavy rain and high winds continued to pound the South Pacific nation.

Officials said they could not guarantee visitors' safety in the wake of flash floods that have killed at least two people

and forced more than 5,000 to take shelter in evacuation centres.

With roads to the international airport in Nadi cut off and extreme weather expected to continue until Tuesday, officials asked airlines not to bring in any more tourists until Monday at the earliest.

"This action is being reluctantly taken by the Fijian gov-

ernment to ensure the safety and convenience of international visitors and Fijian citizens seeking to return to Fiji," Tourism Minister Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum said.

The request is believed to be unprecedented for tourist-dependent Fiji.

National carrier Air Pacific said it had cancelled all inbound flights scheduled for Sunday and was operating only limited outbound flights for passengers who had already checked in at Nadi airport.

Airports Fiji Limited chief executive Tony Gollin said hundreds of international passengers were at the airport awaiting departure.

Many more have been unable to reach the airport, in the west of the main island Vita Levu, after fallen trees, landslides and swollen rivers cut road access.

The government declared a state of emergency in flood-affected areas, saying the move would make coordinating flood relief more effective.

"It's all about efficiency, allowing all parties to just go in there and get going," a government spokeswoman said.

Police and the military were helping coordinate clean-up efforts but the ferocious weather meant that in some areas makeshift repairs to damaged homes were torn apart almost as soon as they were completed.

The entire centre of Nadi was declared off limits to the public because police said the force of water running through the streets after the town's river burst its banks threatened to sweep people away.

The latest flood disaster comes after a six-day deluge in January claimed 11 lives.

Myanmar opposition claims landmark Suu Kyi win

YANGON (AFP) - Myanmar's opposition claimed a historic victory on Sunday for pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi in her first bid for a seat in parliament, sparking scenes of jubilation among supporters.

Thousands of people clapped and cheered outside Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) headquarters in Yangon after the party announced the Nobel Peace Prize laureate had won a parliamentary seat after by-elections.

Some people danced in the street while others wept with joy at the news, which if confirmed would mark a stunning turnaround for the former political prisoner, who was locked up by the former junta for most of the past 22 years.

Suu Kyi won an estimated 99 percent of the votes in Kawhmu constituency, according to NLD official Soe Win, based on the party's own tally. There was no independent confirmation and official results were expected within a week.

The party also claimed it was on course to win all 44 seats it contested in Sunday's



by-elections, in which a total of 45 seats were at stake -- not enough to threaten the army-backed ruling party's huge majority in parliament.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, in Istanbul for a meeting of the "Friends of Syria" group, said Washington was committed to supporting the nascent reforms in Myanmar that have been cautiously welcomed by the West.

Observers believe Myanmar's new quasi-civilian government wanted Suu Kyi to win a place in parliament to burnish its reform credentials and smooth the way for an easing of Western sanctions.

A European Union official invited to observe the vote hailed "very encouraging" signs at the roughly dozen polling stations her team visited.



Spain, Lamelas : Two firemen try to extinguish a fire burning near the village of Lamelas, close to A Capela, in the northwestern Galicia region, on April 1, 2012. A fire still active in the Fragas do Eume wildlife park in Galicia has burned over 500 hectares, while in the neighboring region of Asturias 28 forest fires continue to burn.
AFP PHOTO

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Health & Living

US experts give nod to publish mutant bird flu studies



WASHINGTON (AFP) - A panel of US science and security experts on Friday said two papers on a mutant bird flu should be published after all, reversing its earlier decision to withhold key details.

The announcement came after the latest research and revisions to the papers led by a Dutch and a US team of scientists were reviewed by the non-governmental US National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB).

The US experts had previously opposed publishing the research -- which showed how an engineered H5N1 flu virus could pass easily in the air be-

tween ferrets -- over fears it could end up in the wrong hands and unleash a deadly flu pandemic.

After meeting to review the latest details on March 29-30, the experts saw "new evidence has emerged that underscores the fact that understanding specific mutations may improve international surveillance and public health and safety.

The NSABB faced criticism after it ruled unanimously in December that a pair of US-funded studies, one by a team from Wisconsin and the other led by Netherlands-based scientist Ron Fouchier, should

not be printed without heavy edits of key details to prevent the work from being replicated.

A subsequent meeting of flu experts in Geneva came to the opposite conclusion and urged the prestigious journals Science and Nature to print them as planned, but agreed caution was needed and backed a temporary halt to further research.

At the latest NSABB meeting, experts agreed unanimously that the Wisconsin team's research should be published in full, as planned by the British journal Nature.

Meanwhile, Fouchier has insisted that the mutant virus is not as lethal as the public has been led to believe, and urged its publication so that scientists can prepare remedies should such a variant arise in nature.

Bird flu is believed to kill more than half the people it infects, making it much more lethal than typical strains of the seasonal virus.

Dutch pensioner's decision: when to die with dignity

ENSCHEDA (AFP) - With a deadly dose of barbiturates stashed in his home in a small eastern Dutch town, pensioner Hans Hillebrand is a "self-determinist": he alone wants to decide when it's time to die with dignity.

"I want to do it myself, to be responsible for it myself," the former business manager, 78, told AFP he was still perky and alert, loved tending his flower garden, listening to opera and reading.

But the day he loses his independence and the ability to participate in village life will be the day to consider "going away." "I shall be the director of my own final scene," he said.

Hillebrand is one of a growing number of aging Dutch people who prefer to make their own decisions about when and where to die -- and in a dignified way.

"Senior citizens today like to decide things for themselves, more than previous generations," said Ton Vink of De Einder (The Ender in Dutch), an organisation dedi-

cated to "informing" people who want to end their own lives.

More and more Dutch voices are being raised in support of a right to claim assistance to die with dignity after "an accomplished life" and not just when the requirements by law for euthanasia are fulfilled.

A citizens' initiative called "An Accomplished Life" which supports the idea, has already gathered more than 117,000 signatures, more than the 40,000 required for a debate in the Dutch parliament, which was held in early March.

Even with the country's liberal laws on euthanasia, a doctor still has the final say whether the criteria have been fulfilled for assisted suicide.

A book titled "Solution" written by Dutch psychiatrist Bowdewijn Chabot and published in February 2010, explained how people could end their lives.

Some 11,000 copies have been sold since.



SANAA : A Yemeni child cries while receiving measles vaccine during the second phase of vaccination campaign in the capital Sanaa on March 31, 2012. Health workers planned to protect 1.5 million kids living in the areas worst affected by the outbreak in the first phase of the campaign earlier this month as 26,000 volunteers started the second phase to vaccinate another 6.8 million kids.

AFP PHOTO

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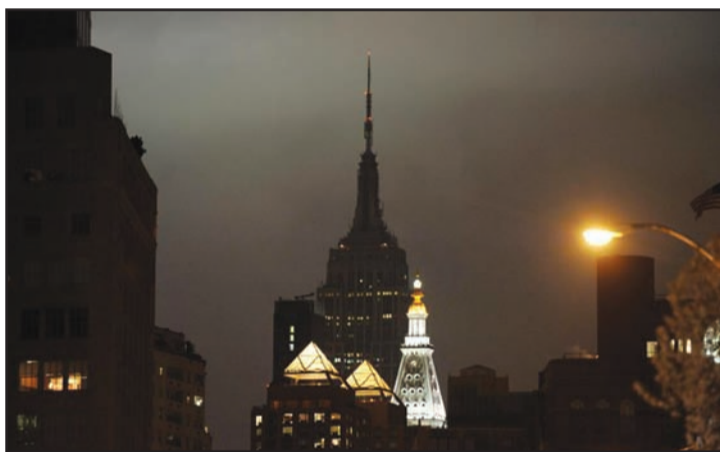


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Sci-Tech

Lights go off around globe for Earth Hour



The Empire State Building (C) turns off its lights during Earth Hour.



The Sydney Opera House and Sydney - Australia



This picture shows the leaning tower of Pisa with the lights off (right) during the Earth Hour.

(AFP) - New York's Empire State Building, the Eiffel Tower in Paris, and the Sydney Opera House were plunged into darkness for the annual Earth Hour campaign, leading a global effort to raise awareness about climate change.

In a twist to this year's Earth Hour, Dutch astronaut Andre Kuipers was to observe from the International Space Station countries around the world turn off the lights for 60 minutes and post photos.

From Sydney's sparkling harbor to Egypt's Tahrir Square, and huge neon billboards that normally light up New York's Times Square, thousands of cities and businesses opted to go dark across some 150 countries and territories.

"Let us stand together to make of our world a sustainable source for our future as humanity on this planet," former South African president Nelson Mandela urged in a message sent to Twitter, using the hashtag "#EarthHour."

Organizers said the official YouTube channel for Earth Hour was seeing some 20,000 visits per minute as the day

rolled on.

Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said the UN was turning off its lights "in solidarity with the men, women and children -- 20 per cent of all humankind -- who live with no access to electricity," adding that the Earth Hour movement was "a symbol of our commitment to sustainable energy for all."

The Pacific island nation of Samoa was the first to make the symbolic gesture, with New Zealand's city landscapes later dramatically darkened as lights on buildings such as Auckland's Sky Tower were cut.

Since it began in Sydney in 2007, Earth Hour has grown to become what environmental group WWF says is the world's largest demonstration of support for action on carbon pollution.

A total of 5,251 cities took part in 2011, as the movement reached 1.8 billion people in 135 countries, it says. Newcomers to the worldwide initiative include Libya and Iraq.

"Earth Hour 2012 is a celebration of people power -- the world's largest mass environmental event in support of the planet," said chief executive of WWF-Australia Dermot O'Gorman.

"And we're seeing hundreds of millions of people in different countries around the world take actions to go beyond the hour in support of positive actions for climate change and the planet."

The lights at the Eiffel Tower, however, were only turned off for five minutes for security reasons.

The effort was also being observed from the International Space Station, where Kuipers is hoping to share photos and live commentary as he watches from above.

"There is no better way to raise awareness for the future of the most beautiful planet in the universe," he said earlier this month.

Smartphones taking over US market: study



SAN FRANCISCO — Nearly half of US mobile phone owners have smartphones, with adoption of Internet-linked handsets rocketing in the past year, according to findings released by the Nielsen research firm.

The number of telecom subscribers with smartphones increased 38 percent to account for 49.7 percent of the handset market by February, Nielsen reported.

Devices powered by Google-backed Android software were the most popular, accounting for 48 percent of smartphones owned, while about a third of the people had Apple iPhones, according to Nielsen.

Blackberry smartphones made by Canada-based Research In Motion accounted for 11.6 percent of the market, but buying patterns in recent months indicated people were more interested in Android devices or iPhones.

Apple chief a hit with workers

(AFP) - Apple chief Tim Cook has won over the company's employees, according to a workplace study released on Friday showing he may be better liked than his legendary predecessor Steve Jobs.

Cook topped a Glassdoor.com ranking of corporate chief executives with a 97 percent approval rating by those he commands at the California-based maker of iPads, iPhones, iPods and Macintosh computers.

In comparison, Jobs had a 95 percent approval rating in the Glassdoor ranking in March of last year.

Jobs's cumulative approval rating was 97 percent when he ceded the Apple helm to Cook in August of last year due to a battle with cancer, which took his life two months later.

"While many speculated how Cook would be received by employees and how he would lead the tech giant, he seems to have settled in quite nicely," Glassdoor said in its report.

The heads of chip maker Qualcomm and consultancy Ernst & Young were close behind Cook with approval ratings of 95 percent each.

The list of the top five most popular chief executives was rounded out by American Express boss Ken Chenault and Google co-founder Larry Page, who were each given 94 percent approval ratings.



ARF (Aruba Relief Foundation) needs your help to transport 5 puppies to Boston. They all still fit under the airline seat. ARF also needs to send one adult dog to Atlanta on Delta and another adult dog to Boston on either American Airlines or Delta. Would you like to volunteer? Then call Kathy at 562-4453...thanks

COMICS



PICKLES



CROSSWORD



CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

- 1. Spill liquid
- 5. Giraffe's snack
- 9. Cable news sta.
- 12. TV host Kelly
- 13. ___ von Bismarck
- 14. Rush
- 15. Heights (abbr.)
- 16. Rehearse
- 18. Hook's right hand
- 20. Wedding greeter
- 21. Blender button
- 24. Bible twin
- 25. Poetic "before"
- 26. Remote
- 29. Stadium roars

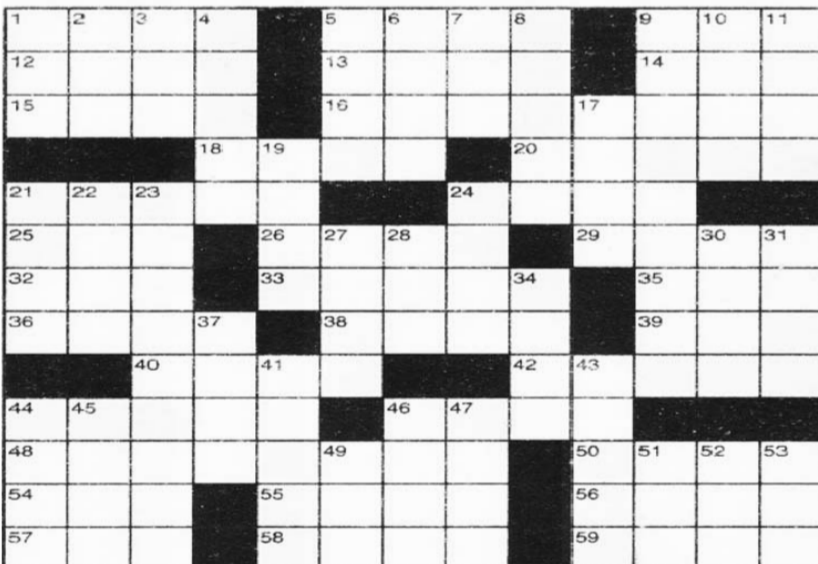
- 32. Meatloaf binder
- 33. Shot made off a rebound (hyph.)
- 35. Place for a hoister
- 36. Actor TIM ("WKRP")
- 38. Taboo (hyph.)
- 39. "X-Files" observation (abbr.)
- 40. Bog down
- 42. Quality
- 44. French student
- 46. Impassioned request
- 48. Gilbert & Sullivan's

- "HMS ___"
- 50. Implement
- 54. Nosh
- 55. French islands
- 56. ___ St. Vincent Millay
- 57. Stammerer's syllables
- 58. IQ ___
- 59. 6/6/44 (hyph.)

DOWN

- 1. Spanish "Mrs."
- 2. Diamond girl
- 3. Choose
- 4. No longer in fashion
- 5. Bounding gait
- 6. To be (Fr.)

- 7. ___ snail's pace (2 wds.)
- 8. Adjust a camera's lens
- 9. Taco Bell spokes-animal
- 10. "Have a ___ day!"
- 11. Poetic never
- 17. Ruler in Tolstoy's time
- 19. Vegetarian's avoidance
- 21. British noble
- 22. Insist upon
- 23. Military groups
- 24. Actress Moran
- 27. Stooge Larry abbr.
- 28. Military mail abbr.
- 30. Stereo's relative (hyph.)
- 31. Help a weightlifter
- 34. Memo
- 37. Prima donna
- 41. Readjust the size
- 43. Priced
- 44. Fencing weapon
- 45. Fibber
- 46. Obama's title (abbr.)
- 47. "___ we forget"
- 49. Madrid cheer
- 51. Like 7 or 9 but not 10
- 52. Not ___ dare (2 wds.)
- 53. Place (down)



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Sudoku

				5		6		4
	6	7			9			
							9	7
	8	9			5		1	
6			7		1			9
	1		6				2	5
3	4							
				9			4	6
5		1		2				

SOLUTION

5	2	8	9	7	4	1	6	5
5	9	4	6	8	1	6	8	2
1	2	6	8	7	5	9	4	3
8	5	2	7	6	9	1	1	7
6	4	1	8	7	5	2	9	
9	1	7	5	2	6	8	4	
2	6	1	2	9	4	7	5	8
2	5	5	6	4	8	7	9	1
4	8	9	7	5	1	2	1	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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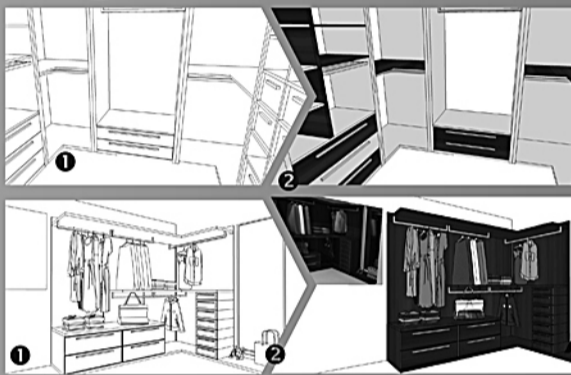
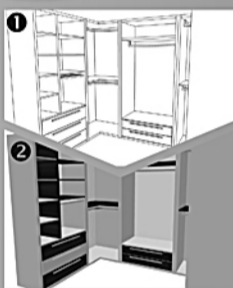
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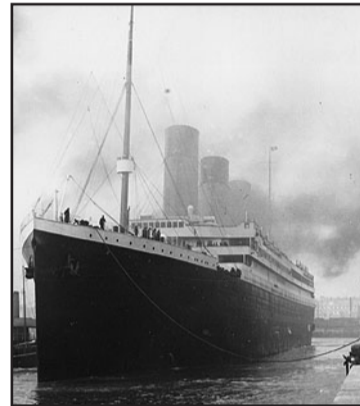
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Titanic's last lunch menu sells for £76,000 in Britain



1912 -- the night the biggest, most ambitious ship of the age hit an iceberg in the North Atlantic and sank, killing 1,514 people -- was the star lot in an auction of Titanic memorabilia.

A Britain-based collector bought the menu, which had been on the table of American banker Washington Dodge, at the Henry Aldridge and Son saleroom in Devizes, southwest England.

LONDON (AFP) - A menu for the last luncheon served to first class passengers on the doomed Titanic sold for £76,000 (\$122,000, 91,000 euros) at a British auction on Sunday.

The dishes on offer to the ship's wealthiest passengers included chicken a la Maryland -- otherwise known as fried chicken with creamy gravy -- and eggs Argenteuil, a plate of poached eggs with asparagus.

The menu, dated April 14,

Finance

Kurds halt oil exports in payment row

BAGHDAD (AFP) - Iraq's Kurdish region halted oil exports on Sunday after Baghdad's top energy official warned it to reconsider before following through on the threat over the government's non-payment of funds.

The move by Kurdistan is the latest in a long-running row between Baghdad and Kurdish authorities in Arbil, who have squabbled over payments, revenue-sharing and the central government's refusal to recognise deals Kurdish officials have signed with foreign energy firms.

Kurdistan said a week ago that it had reduced exports to 50,000 barrels of oil per day, and threatened to stop exports entirely if Iraq did not hand over \$1.5 billion Arbil said was owed to foreign oil companies working in the region.

On Sunday, Kurdistan followed through.

"After consultation with the producing companies, the ministry (of natural resources) has reluctantly decided to halt exports until further notice," the Kurdistan regional government said in a statement on its website.

"There have been no payments for 10 months, nor any indication from federal authorities that payments are forthcoming."

The statement said exports would be diverted to the local market for processing and refining.

National oil ministry spokesman Assem Jihad de-

clined to comment on the decision.

Before the Kurdish statement was released, the national government's deputy prime minister for energy affairs warned Arbil to consider its threats and get "their act together."

"I would advise them, before they make any threat, to consider how much oil (revenue) they are getting from other parts of the country, which is much more than the oil that is being produced there," Hussein al-Shahristani said in an interview with AFP in his office in Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone.

Panasonic to make all mobile handsets overseas: report

Tokyo (AFP) - Japan's Panasonic is considering shifting all its production of mobile phone handsets overseas as early as this summer, a report said Sunday.

The electronics giant, which already produces some handsets abroad, is considering ending production at a factory in central Shizuoka prefecture, where nearly half its handsets are made, the Nikkei daily said.

Work from the Shizuoka factory will be moved to Beijing and Malaysia, and some will be outsourced to other manufacturers abroad, although the report did not say where.

The electronics giant has warned it would see its worst-ever net loss of 780 billion yen (\$9.4 billion) for the year to March, blaming factors including the strong yen and flooding in Thailand.

Argentina may sue banks over Falklands oil: report

LONDON (AFP) - Argentina has threatened to sue several international banks for advising firms hunting for oil off the Falkland Islands and writing reports on them, a newspaper said on Sunday.

Buenos Aires has warned banks including US giant Goldman Sachs, Credit Suisse and the London-based Barclays Capital that they face criminal and civil action in Argentina, the Sunday Telegraph reported.

Britain and Argentina

have been engaged in a renewed war of words over the Falklands in recent months as the 30th anniversary of their brief but bloody conflict over the archipelago in the South Atlantic approaches.

The island's oil reserves, which remain untapped until now but which analysts predict could be worth tens of billions of dollars, have been a major source of tension between the countries since their discovery in 1998.

FINANCE BRIEFS...

Germany wants EU financial watchdogs

BERLIN (AFP) - Germany wants expert watchdogs to oversee public spending by members of the European Union to prevent future Greek-like near-bankruptcy scenarios, Spiegel magazine said in its latest edition out Monday. Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaueble is suggesting that independent expert commissions be set up at both national and European level to do so, Spiegel said citing an internal ministry document. The commissions would be tasked with providing early warning of "abnormal developments" likely to spark a financial crisis. Germany has been called upon to provide the lion's share of EU funds to shore up debt-ridden fellow members states, such as Greece.

Roche could withdraw hostile bid of US Illumina: report

GENEVA (AFP) - Swiss pharmaceutical giant Roche could withdraw its takeover bid for US gene mapper Illumina, the SonntagsZeitung reported Sunday, citing sources close to the deal. "Illumina would be an interesting business to acquire for Roche, but it is not essential to its development," the unnamed source told the paper. The Basel-based giant launched its bid -- previously estimated at \$5.7 billion -- for Illumina on January 25. But the US provider of integrated systems for DNA sequencing, had opposed the hostile move saying Roche's offer price was too low. On Thursday, Roche increased its offer price by 15 percent but it is not clear if the sweetened proposal will persuade Illumina's leadership to back the takeover. According to SonntagsZeitung, Roche will not increase its offer again.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer



Exposition "Journey to New Horizons" on display for limited time at Cas di Cultura



Lauren and her work



Island artist Lauren Eman is well-known in the local art lovers for her imaginative use

of color and form, and many came to the opening of a rare event, her new solo show at the Cas di Cultura on Friday evening March 30. This latest collection of 50 paintings, all acrylic on canvas, demonstrates a diversity of styles and subject matter along with the artist's flexibility of mind in technique. It is her first solo

show since 2007.

The exposition consists of 8 sub-collections; each dedicated to experimenting with the varied treatment of subject, or an exercise in paint application, from blotting pointillism to abstract and echoes of the "psychedelic" style of the 60's.

Lauren, though born and raised on Aruba, has traveled extensively and the many landscapes in the collection reflect not only her homeland, but the sights she has seen around the world, in a decidedly appealing primitive style. Since realizing her passion for art in 2003, the prolific artist has produced over 400 paintings; this is her 6th solo exposition since 2004.

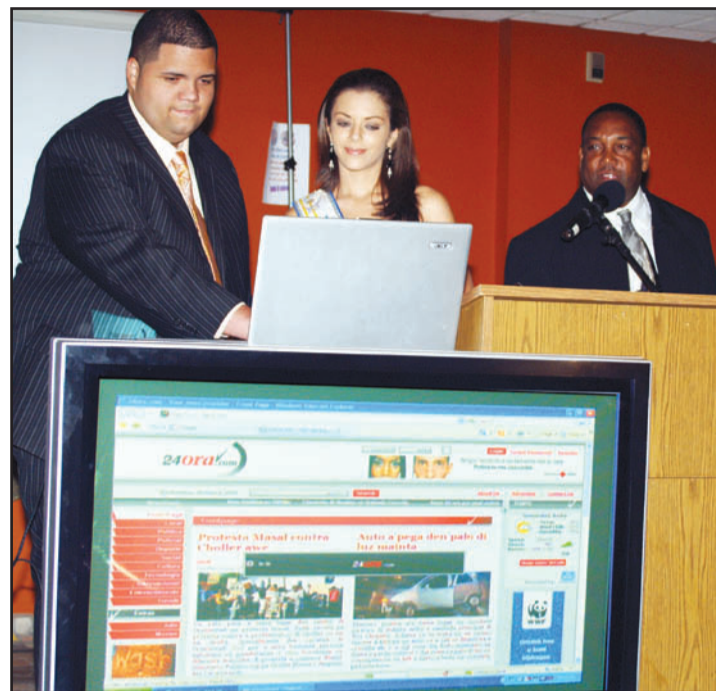
The works will be on display until Thursday, April 5, and all are for sale. In opening the exhibit, she offered her heartfelt thanks to UNOCA for their sponsorship of the exposition, and a supportive community.

by Rosalie Klein



Orchid

24ora.com celebrates their first lustrum



March 28, 2007 Mark launches 24 ora



Proud Dad Lenny on that fateful day 5 years ago (L), Proud father Lenny with mark 5 years later (R)

Some might have thought it a concept ahead of its time, but there is no denying the success of Aruba's first real-time, round the clock news website, in Papiamentu, since it first came online March 28, 2007, when founder Mark Benson Denz hit the keyboard and launched 24ora.com.

Mark, a recent graduate of Landstede College in Zwolle, The Netherlands, with a degree in Commercial Marketing and Communication Management, was convinced of the island's need for such a service, and in a short time it expanded its capability to include live video streaming of events. A digital cable news network, iTV channel 49, followed a few years later, making 24.ora.com THE source for current news on Aruba, in its native language.

In the five years since inception, 24ora.com has expanded from a one-man operation to include Mark's partner, Michal Carty, and several reporters and photographers at the scene not only locally, but offering greater

scope with an Antillean version as well. They could also be counted on to vigorously support island foundations and worthy causes, tirelessly dedicating their time to serving the community.

Demonstrating their gratitude for support from this community, 24ora.com conducted a grand 5th anniversary celebration in the Plaza Betico Croes on Friday evening, March 30, beginning at 6:00 PM and lasting till nearly midnight. Top local bands Tsunami, Claudius Phillips and OREO, Impak, Upgrade Music, Rincon Boyz, Genie, OBS Brassband, Honeypot, Randall Croes and his God Soldiers and Le Groove took to the stage to congratulate 24.ora.com on their success, which was all streamed live online and on cable TV, of course.

Management and staff of THE MORNING NEWS congratulate Mark, Michael and their crew for their innovative work in news reporting on Aruba, and wish them every success.

by Rosalie Klein

15N15

15 MINUTE ENGLISH LIFESTYLE & NEWS SHOW

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Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange



Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



Taj Mahal Restaurant, an authentic culinary excursion



When Bharat Shah, originally from India, but now a successful businessman in California, put on a spectacular wedding in Aruba for his daughter Lisa and her groom Kalpesh, they welcomed hundreds of friends and relatives from around the world, including the "old country."

When all the wedding guests had finally arrived in Aruba, Bharat hosted an official welcome party along the shore in Palm Beach, and he chose to have it catered by Taj Mahal restaurant, he was that impressed by their cuisine.

If you like your Indian food authentic, or are looking for a new and unique dining experience, an evening at Taj Mahal will deliver a memorable meal. A seemingly endless menu offers scores of choices for fish, chicken, lamb and vegetarian dishes that are "the real deal;" discover that Indian food goes way beyond curry!

A taste-testing crew from THE MORNING NEWS chose a selection of their singular starters and two main courses with saffron rice, served family style, which provided a fine example of the versatility of their chef.

Taj Mahal's Tai Choice is a great way to start the meal and be initiated into the joys of Indian cuisine, offering a diverse selection of traditional favorites. It contains hearty portions of Pakoras, crispy vegetarian fritters, Aloo Tikki, potato cutlets, Chicken Tikka, tender chicken breast pieces seasoned just right, and shaped and seasoned ground lamb, charmingly dubbed "Sheik Kebabs." All is served on a bed of sliced onions and brought to your table on a sizzling platter, and you will want to dish those sautéed onions on to one of their tasty Indian breads called Naan, leaving behind not a single crumb. Main dishes are accompanied by a choice of rice, mixed vegetables rich with garlic, or Naan, plain, buttered, onion or garlic, and you will want to order an extra basket or two of this tasty delight, on

which you can spoon your main course, as well. Poori is crispy fried naan, and most definitely worth the extra two dollars to sample with your meal.

Our group also added an appetizer of crunchy Samosas, the Indian form of a potato knish, served with either cilantro or sweet and sour sauce. A platter of their Jhinga, large, crispy-fried shrimp in a delicate batter is ample enough to serve as a main course, though featured on their appetizer menu.

As we mentioned, main courses are served family style, in beautiful little pots that sit upon a candle to keep them warm. Our group sampled the "Mutton Saagwala," also known as "Lamb Shag" which is cooked in a thick sauce of yogurt and spinach, and the "Fish Hara Masala," moist, tender chunks of fish in a rich sauce featuring cilantro as the main flavoring. This is offered in mild, medium and very spicy, we found the medium quite spicy enough for us; it left a tingle on the tongue.

The family style service allows everyone at the table to sample a bit of this and that, and we heartily recommend you do, to truly appreciate this authentic bit of India in Aruba. Open for lunch and dinner, Taj Mahal sports a cozy and intimate air-conditioned dining room and a small outdoor terrace for those that enjoy dining al fresco. They have an exotic dessert menu to match, but our group was too stuffed to partake; there was even enough left to box up and provide a lunch next day for the lucky first person to get to it!

Located behind the Royal Plaza Mall, across from Aruba's Numismatic Museum, Taj Mahal offers a dining experience that is truly out of the ordinary; they feature an excellent and tasty selection for vegetarians too. If you are a fan of Indian food, or have been toying with trying it, Taj Mahal is the place for a very affordable dining experience and the real deal! Call 588-4494 for reservations.

SPORTS

Basketball: US names 11- woman squad chasing fifth gold

DENVER (AFP) - USA Basketball Friday named the first 11 members of the 12-woman squad that will seek a fifth straight Olympic gold at the London Games, a group that includes a trio of two-time Olympic champions.

Sue Bird, Tamika Catchings and Diana Taurasi, all of whom won gold medals at the 2004 and 2008 Olympic Games, return.

Four players who have each earned one Olympic gold and four newcomers to the Games are included, with the final player to be named at a later date.

Among the previous gold medallists on the team, Swin Cash was on the US team in Athens in 2004. Seimone Augustus, Sylvia Fowles and Candace Parker who all won gold in Beijing in 2008.

Tina Charles, Angel McCoughtry, Maya Moore and Lindsay Whalen are headed to their first Olympics.

All 11 play professionally in the WNBA and most of them spend the US league's off-season in playing in China or Europe.

Five of those selected -- Bird, Taurasi, Cash, Moore and Charles -- formerly played at the University of Connecticut, whose coach Geno Auriemma will guide the Olympic team.

Seven countries have claimed spots in the eventual 12-nation field, including host country Britain. The US clinched their berth with the 2010 world title, while Angola, Australia, Brazil, China and Russia have secured berths by winning their regional qualifying tournaments.

Twelve nations will fight for the last five spots at the Olympic qualifying tournament June 25-July 1 in Ankara, Turkey.

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Cycling: Boonen wins record equalling third Tour of Flanders

AUDENARDE-Belgium (AFP) - Belgian cyclist Tom Boonen won the one day classic Tour of Flanders for a record equalling third time here on Sunday.

The 31-year-old - previously a winner in 2005 and 2006 - beat home Italian duo Filippo Pozzato and Alessandro Ballan in a sprint finish to the 255km race.

Boonen admitted that he hadn't been very confident of winning when he was left with just the two Italians for company.

His task had been made easier when Switzerland's Olympic time-trial champion Fabian Cancellara, the winner in 2010, fell 62km from the finish and was later diagnosed to have broken his right collarbone in three places.

Cancellara, who was one of the pre-race favourites for the second one day classic of the season, will be transferred to a hospital in Baszel, Switzerland, where he will undergo an operation.

It brings a premature end to



his classics season which had seen him highly favoured for both this race and the Paris-Roubaix next Sunday.

Boonen too was sorry what had befallen his rival.

Boonen - who was aided by Chavanel in regulating the pace after the peloton regrouped with 39km to go - was left with just a group of 10 other riders after a crash after 221km had split the peloton.

Ballan made a break for it on the third climb and was joined by Pozzato and Boonen with 17km to go, with the trio gradually extending their lead.

Boonen - who was world road race champion in 2005 and has won the Paris-Roubaix three times - was recording his eighth win of the season and third in 10 days.

Boonen said that a fourth Paris-Roubaix next weekend was not out of the question.

Table Tennis: China sweep golds at world team championships

DORTMUND (AFP) - China completed the cleansweep of gold medals at the world team table tennis championship on Sunday as their women beat defending champions Singapore and the men saw off Germany.

Both the Chinese teams are defending Olympic champions after their men and women claimed golds at Beijing four years ago when the team event made its debut and China's teams are favourites for gold at the London Games later this year.

Overall, China have won 36 gold medals in both the men's and women's world team championships since the tournament began in 1926.

After their men beat hosts Germany 3-0 in their final, the Chinese dragon roared again as the women took revenge for their defeat two years ago in Moscow with victory over Singapore.

"Again we are world champions and that is well-de-

served," said China men's coach Liu Guoliang, whose team won the title for the sixth time in succession.

"The German team is the strongest in Europe, I hope they continue developing.

Germany put up a brave fight as their top player Timo Boll came back from 2-0 down to level the first match before losing 3-2 defeat to Zhang Jike.

Germany's Dimitrij Ovtcharov was then dismissed 3-0 by Ma Long, but in the third game Patrick Baum took the first game against Wang Hao before falling to a 3-1 defeat.

In the women's final, China's Ding Ning put her side ahead with a 3-1 win over Feng Tianwei, while compatriot Li Xiaoxia also had few problems in her 3-1 win against Wang Yuegu.

It fell to Guo Yue to seal victory and she dominated Li Jiawei with a 3-0 win in straight games.

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NBA: On lackluster night Bryant shines when it counts

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Kobe Bryant made just three baskets on Saturday, but his nightmarish night included one dream shot: a go-ahead three-pointer with 20 seconds

left in the Lakers' NBA victory over New Orleans.

Bryant, the league's scoring leader, finished the night three-for-21 from the floor with a total of 11 points, but the Lakers still managed to beat the Hornets 88-85

He missed his first 15 attempts, and his key basket with the clock ticking down was his only three-pointer in eight attempts on the night.

"I'm stubborn. That's probably what it is," Bryant said of his decision to go for the shot, which gave the Lakers an 86-

85 lead. "If I'd have missed that shot, everybody would have killed me."

Bryant had never before missed more than 11 shots to start a game or more than 13 consecutive attempts during a game.

Despite Bryant's struggles, the Lakers led by 14 after the first quarter, but the Hornets had stormed back to take a 10-point lead in the fourth.

Bryant played just over 38 minutes Saturday, right around the 38.6 he was averaging coming into the contest.

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US coastguards scramble to stricken yacht in Pacific

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - The US Coast Guard scrambled Sunday to help a yacht hit by a "monstrous foaming swell" in the Pacific that injured four crew members, including two Britons and an Australian, officials said.

The 68-foot (21-meter) "Geraldton Western Australia" was caught in severe weather some 400 miles (640 kilometers) off the California coast that swept away its steering wheel and some communications equipment, race organizers said.

The injured crew members sustained suspected broken ribs and were being treated by

medically-trained colleagues on the craft, one of 10 similar boats taking part in the Clipper Round the World yacht race.

A long-range HC-130 Hercules aircraft was able to drop medical supplies late Saturday, but an attempt to lower rescuers was thwarted because of the weather, and the aircraft had to return to shore, a Coast Guard statement said.

On Sunday, a Coast Guard cutter was dispatched with a helipad and chopper to link up with the stricken yacht and possibly airlift one or more of the injured, race organizers said.

The yacht, which the Coast

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Guard says has 13 people on board, is sailing under secondary steering toward San Francisco. A container ship was also diverted to reach them if necessary.

In comments posted on the race's website, South African skipper Juan Coetzer said the boat was hit by a massive wave at dawn Saturday.

"We were racing along in 40-60 knot gusts. The sea was alive with rage. We were making good speed... Then at our watch change, just before the sun came up, a monstrous foaming swell broke over our stern," he said. "Mark Burkes was on the helm at the time.

The water had so much force in it that it pushed Mark into the helm, snapping the pedestal clean off. We had no steering and crew were falling all over the boat."

The yacht was on the latest leg of the round-the-world race, sailing from Qingdao, China to San Francisco. The next leg should take race participants to New York, via the Panama Canal, the Coast Guard said.

Six of the 10 boats competing have now arrived in San Francisco, while three others were expected to arrive within 24 hours, said race organizers, as the stricken yacht limped toward land.



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Tennis: Djokovic downs Murray to win third Miami Masters



Andy Murray of Great Britain and Novak Djokovic of Serbia pose for photographers after the final of the Sony Ericsson Open at the Crandon Park Tennis Center on April 1, 2012

MIAMI (AFP) - World number one Novak Djokovic defeated Andy Murray 6-1, 7-6 (7/4) on Sunday to win his second straight ATP Miami Masters title and third overall.

Djokovic, who won here for the first time in 2007, became just the third man to win the title three or more times, along with Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras.

Agassi won six Miami titles and Sampras three.

For his third straight match, Djokovic cruised through the first set before finding himself in a tense tussle in the second.

However, even though the second set went with serve until the tie-breaker, it was Murray who was under pressure most, fighting off break points in three of his service

games.

"I thought I played a great match from start to end," said Djokovic, who didn't drop a set in the tournament.

Djokovic, 24, captured his 30th ATP title, and his second this year after his triumph at the Australian Open. It marked his 11th victory in the ATP's elite Masters 1000 series.

Murray had beaten Djokovic in the semi-finals at Dubai in February, and the Serb was then upset by American John Isner in the semi-finals of the Indian Wells Masters last week.

Djokovic said that made this win, which made him the first man since Roger Federer in 2006 to successfully defend the Miami crown, all the sweeter.

Murray, who beat Djokovic in the 2009 Miami final, was playing his first match since Wednesday, when he downed Janko Tipsarevic in the quarter-finals.

He advanced to the title match on a walkover when world number two Rafael Nadal withdrew before their

semi-final with a left knee injury.

Oddly, that was Murray's second walkover of the tournament, after Canadian Milos Raonic pulled out of their scheduled third-round clash with an ankle injury.

Whether it was the layoff or not, Murray wasn't at his sharpest, his 39 unforced errors making things easier for Djokovic.

His only break chance in the entire two hour, seven minute encounter came in the fifth game of the first set, but he was unable to convert it and

stem Djokovic's momentum.

The Serb had gained the upper hand in the fourth game of the opening set, which Murray led 40-0 but ended up losing on Djokovic's second break point.

Djokovic eventually closed out the opening set with his first ace of the match, and Murray promptly found himself in a 0-30 hole in the first game of the second -- typical of the pressure he faced throughout the second set.

Murray said his biggest problem was his return game, normally his strong point.

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